Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A navigation method for providing navigation by using map data, comprising:

displaying a menu with which a user specifies an area of a map over which map data are to be updated, the menu containing a map-based option for area specification and a route-based option for area specification, the map data being managed in units of a mesh;

displaying a route and a map including the route, and displaying along the route one or more meshes including ~~more~~ map data judged to be updated based upon the route, when the route-based option is selected from the options in the menu on display;

making a display in which a data update instruction can be inputted;

obtaining update data along the route when the data update instruction is input; and

executing processing by using the obtained update data.

2.   (Previously Presented) A navigation method according to claim 1, wherein:

the meshes are displayed so that a mesh is selectable for updating among the meshes displayed along the route.

3.   (Withdrawn)   A processing method to be adopted in a navigation system that includes an input device, an output device having a display unit, a processing device and a recording medium, stores storage data including map data in the storage medium and provides navigation by using the storage data, comprising:

displaying a plurality of options including "road data" so as to enable specification of map data to be updated;

displaying a plurality of roads if the "road data" are selected from the options on display;

obtaining update data corresponding to a specific road selected from the roads on display; and

executing processing by using the obtained data.

4.   (Withdrawn)   A processing method to be adopted in a navigation system, which includes an input device, an output device having a display unit, a processing device and a recording medium, stores storage data including map data in the storage medium and displays route information with regard to a route from a current position to a destination by using the storage data, comprising:

displaying a plurality of options including "road data" so as to enable specification of map data to be updated;

displaying a plurality of roads along a route if the "road data" are selected from the options on display;

obtaining update data corresponding to a specific road selected from the roads on display; and

executing processing by using the obtained data.

5.   (Withdrawn) A processing method to be adopted in a navigation system, which includes an input device, an output device having a display unit, a processing device and a recording medium, stores storage data including map data in the storage medium and displays route information with regard to a route from a current position to a destination by using the storage data, comprising:

displaying a plurality of options including road data so as to enable specification of map data to be updated;

displaying a plurality of roads related to a route and availability/unavailability of data to be used for an update if the road data are selected from the options on display;

obtaining update data corresponding to a specific road selected from the roads on display; and

executing processing by using the obtained data.

Claim 6   (Canceled).

7   (Withdrawn) A map data management apparatus connected via a communication network with a navigation system that uses map data stored in a fixed recording medium and update map data downloaded thereto in combination, comprising:

a map data management means that manages map data so that a memory volume does not exceed a predetermined maximum value and handles meshes with history information to be used to determine update statuses of individual sets of data as management units of the map data; and

an update data providing means that searches for an area in which relevant map data corresponding to a data update request issued from the navigation system belong, in units of individual meshes and provides update data together with the history information.

8.   (Previously Presented) A navigation method to be used in a navigation system that uses map data stored in a fixed recording medium and update map data downloaded from a map data management apparatus in combination, comprising:

a step of prompting a selection in a map data update menu prepared in advance, obtaining an input indicating the selection and displaying a specific area for a data update;

a step of prompting an input of at least one selected option in an update category menu prepared in advance and displaying the specific area distinguishably when the specific area is judged to have update map data based upon the input of the selected option;

making a display in which a map data update instruction can be inputted;

obtaining the update map data of the specific area having the update map data when the map data update instruction is input; and

using the obtained update map data.

Claim 9   (Canceled).

10   (Withdrawn)   A map data management program to be used in a map data management apparatus connected via a communication network with a navigation system that uses map data stored in a fixed recording medium and update map data downloaded from the map data management apparatus in combination, comprising:

a step of handling reference meshes managed in a smallest possible fixed size allowed in relation to a memory capacity and having history information

used to determine update statuses of individual sets of data as management units of the map data; and

a step of searching for an area in which relevant map data corresponding to a data update request issued from the navigation system belong in units of the individual reference meshes and providing update data together with the history information.

Claim 11   (Canceled).

12.   (Withdrawn) A computer program executed in a navigation system that uses map data, comprising:

a step of displaying route information indicating a route from a current position to a destination;

a step of displaying availability/unavailability of update information related to the route information; and

a step of executing processing based upon data obtained in response to an update instruction.

13.   (Withdrawn) A computer program executed in a navigation system that uses map data, comprising:

a step of displaying route information indicating a route from a current position to a destination;

a step of displaying availability/unavailability of update information related to the route information in correspondence to individual meshes so that a mesh with update information is visually distinguishable from a mesh with no update information; and

a step of executing processing based upon data obtained in response to an update instruction.

14.   (Previously Presented) A navigation device, comprising:

a control unit that is configured to provide navigation by using map data, wherein

the control unit is configured

to display a menu with which a user specifies an area of a map over which map data are to be updated, the menu containing a map-based option for area specification and a route-based option for area specification, the map data being managed in units of a mesh;

to display a route and a map including the route, and displaying along the route one or more meshes including map data judged to be updated based upon the route, when the route-based option is selected from the options in the menu on display;

to make a display in which a data update instruction can be inputted;

to obtain update data long the route when the data update instruction is input; and

to execute processing by using the obtained update data.

15.   (Previously Presented) A navigation device according to claim 14, wherein:

the control unit is configured to display the meshes so that a mesh can be selected to be updated among the meshes displayed along the route.

16.   (Previously Presented) A navigation device, comprising:

a control unit that is configured to use map data stored in a fixed recording medium and update map data downloaded from a map data management apparatus in combination, wherein

the control unit is configured

to prompt a selection in a map data update menu prepared in advance, obtain an input indicating the selection and display a specific area for a data update;

to prompt an input of at least one selected option in an update category menu prepared in advance and display the specific area distinguishably

when the specific area is judged to have update map data based upon the input of the selected option;

to make a display in which a map data update instruction can be inputted;

to obtain the update map data of the specific area having the update map data when the map data update instruction is input; and

to use the obtained update map data.

17.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium on which is stored a program that enables a computer to perform a navigation method according to claim 1.

18.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium on which is stored a program that enables a computer to perform a navigation method according to claim 2.

19.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable recording medium on which is stored a program that enables a computer to perform a navigation method according to claim 8.